

Message Text

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17-12
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /148 W
----- 109250

P R 281510Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6953
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2958

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, CB, FI
SUBJECT: KHMER REPRESENTATION AT UNGA

REF: (A) STATE 232572 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 232033 (NOTAL)
(C) STATE 219689 (D) HELSINKI 2843 (E) HELSINKI
2882 (NOTAL)

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTELS A AND B,
ON NOVEMBER 28 DCM TOOK UP MATTER AGAIN WITH MATTI TUOVINEN,
CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION OF FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY,
AS DID POLITICAL OFFICER WITH KEIJO KORHONEN, DEPUTY
CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION.

2. WHILE MAKING AGAIN ALL POINTS IN STATE 219689, BOTH
OFFICERS EMPHASIZED NARROW VOTE SPREAD AND IMPORTANCE
FINNISH VOTE, AS WELL AS THE PRINCIPLE OF THE ISSUE AS
REFLECTED IN PARAS 2(A) AND (B) OF STATE 219689 AND
3(B) OF STATE 232033, AND POINTED OUT AUSTRIAN
ANTI-GRUNK POSITION.

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3. NEITHER TUOVINEN OR KORHONEN CLOSED THE DOOR ON

MATTER AND SAID THAT IT WOULD BE TAKEN UNDER FURTHER CONSIDERATION. BOTH TUOVINEN AND KORHONEN REITERATED TRADITIONAL FINNISH POSITION ON THIS TYPE ISSUE, HOWEVER, SAYING THAT IN CASES WHERE GREAT POWER INTERESTS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WERE IN CONFLICT, AND MATTER WAS NOT OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO FINLAND, FINNS TRADITIONALLY ABSTAINED AND/OR VOTED WITH THEIR FELLOW NORDICS. KORHONEN ADDED THAT FINLAND RECOGNIZES ONLY STATES, NOT GOVERNMENTS, AND DEAL WITH WHATEVER GOVERNMENT IS IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL. HE SAID THAT WHEREAS FINLAND RECOGNIZES CAMBODIA AS A STATE, IT REALLY DOES NOT HAVE ANY RELATIONS WITH IT, AND IS IN NO POSITION TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE COMPETING GROUPS HAVE CONTROL.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE MATTER IS STILL PURPORTEDLY UNDER REVIEW BY THE FINNS WE ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT THEY WILL CHANGE THEIR PRESENT POSITION OF PLANNING TO ABSTAIN. IN OUR OPINION THE ONLY CHANCES FOR BRINGING THIS ABOUT WOULD BE EITHER THROUGH (A) ONE OR MORE OF THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES DECIDING TO VOTE AGAINST THE GRUNK, (B) THE DEPARTMENT BEING ABLE TO CONVINCE THE FINNISH AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON OR FINLAND'S REPRESENTATIVE IN THE UN SUFFICIENTLY STRONGLY FOR HIM TO TAKE UP THE FIGHT WITH THEIR PRINCIPALS HERE, OR (C) OUR PRESENTING THE FINNS A STRONGLY WORDED WRITTEN DEMARCHE DIRECTING ITSELF TO THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AND UN PRINCIPLES INVOLVED IN MATTER, RATHER THAN ARGUMENTS FOR LON NOL AND AGAINST SIHANOUK--WHICH CARRY LITTLE WEIGHT HERE. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE ONLY ARGUMENT THAT SEEMED TO PHASE TUOVINEN WAS THAT KHMER REPRESENTATION IN UNGA WAS MORE THAN A QUESTION BETWEEN SIHANOUK AND LON NOL, IT WAS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE WHETHER A "GOVERNMENT IN EXILE" OR "NON-GOVERNMENT " WOULD HAVE A VOTE IN THE UNGA, AND THAT EVERY EFFORT MUST BE TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT SUCH A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT IS NOT SET, SINCE EVERY LEGITIMATE COUNTRY'S VOTE WOULD BE DILUTED THEREBY.

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4. ACTION RECOMMENDED: AT THIS POINT IN TIME WE FEEL THAT ALTERNATIVE (C) OFFERS THE BEST POSSIBILITY OF STILL TRYING TO INFLUENCE THE FINNS IN THEIR THINKING ON THE MATTER, AND SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO PREPARING AND INSTRUCTING US TO PRESENT TO THE FINNS A STRONGLY WORDED WRITTEN DEMARCHE CONCERNING THE PRINCIPLES AT ISSUE.

5. WE WILL AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT
AND FINAL WORD FROM FINNS.
KREHBIEL

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 28 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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